

Al^{the}magest

Volume 46, Issue 5

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LSU SHREVEPORT

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WEEKLY WEATHER

Today: 
Hi: 87
Lo: 64

Friday: Mostly Sunny
Hi: 89 Lo: 68

Saturday: Isolated Storms
Hi: 85 Lo: 64

Sunday: Few Showers
Hi: 76 Lo: 63

Monday: Isolated Storms
Hi: 79 Lo: 60

Tuesday: Scat'd Showers
Hi: 82 Lo: 60

Wednesday: Scat'd T'storms
Hi: 82 Lo: 58

Speaker urges voters to get educated

BY SHANDRIKA JACKSON —

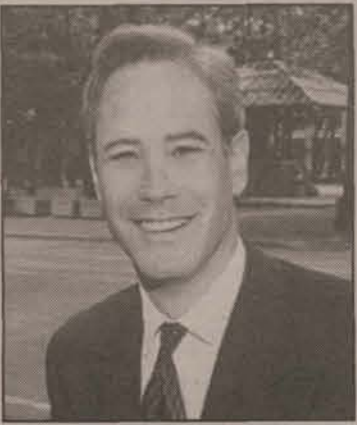
As the November election approaches, apprehensions may still remain with voters about which candidate is right for the job of President of the United States. Rick Shenkman, a historian and journalist who focuses on American politics, said there are many factors that should determine a vote.

Shenkman, who considers himself an "equal opportunity critic," came to LSUS on Sept. 23 to speak to students about the importance of an educated voter. Shenkman began his

speech with the history of American politics and changes that have occurred over time. He referred to the fact that voters were once very interested and informed about American politics and issues facing them.

Today, Shenkman said, American's busy schedules have made the television the prime source of information and education on social issues.

"Television is a key factor that is running politics in the ground," said Shenkman. "Television has made a true mockery of the American political system. Television does not



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.SPRYNET.COM](http://www.sprynet.com)
Rick Shenkman recently spoke to LSUS students about the importance of voter education.

formation for voters to use to cast an educated vote, but it does provide plenty of entertainment news on the candidates."

The central theme of Shenkman's speech was that voters young and old should try to become more informed and educated about the candidates and the issues facing America before casting their votes this November. Our votes, said Shenkman, have drastic consequences and should not be taken lightly.

provide much educational in-

SEE SHENKMAN PAGE 6

College Democrats gear up for election

BY CHAUNTE ROBINSON —

The LSUS College Democrats has planned several activities this month to boost voter registration and participation.

The organization's first outreach venture was a presentation at Bossier Parish Community College on Sept. 21. They gave a presentation about the organization and helped to register voters.

The second event began with the March of Remembrance on Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 3:30 p.m. at Booker T. Washington High School. From the school, the participants marched to Union Baptist Church for prayer and showing of events surrounding the crimes that took place in Birmingham, Ala. during the 1960s. This event was coordinated by Larry Ferdinand, president of the NAACP, Shreveport Democrats and the Young Democrats organization.

On Thursday, Sept. 23, the College Democrats participated in the opening of the Democrat-

ic Headquarters, located at 6138 Greenwood Road.

The organization also participated today in a bi-partisan voter registration drive during Common Hour in front of the University Center with the College of Republicans, Student Government Association, Black Student Organization and the Student Activities Board.

Kirk Green, College of Democrats president and senior political science major, said the organization was most concerned about getting people motivated to vote and educating people about voting.

"We show that diversity and tolerance work," said Jay Thom, vice president of College Democrats and senior political science major.

This semester the organization will be recognized as an official organization by the Student Organizations Council. The organization started last semester, but had difficulty becoming an organization due to

SEE DEMOCRATS PAGE 7

Phi Eta Sigma inducts 50 new members

BY JAMIE GILMORE —

Fifty students were recently inducted into the LSUS chapter of Phi Eta Sigma.

The event took place Sunday, Sept. 26, in the University Center Theatre.

According to Phi Eta Sigma, induction is an outward recognition of personal accomplishment and serves as an incentive for continued high scholarship.

It provides members the opportunity to meet freshman scholars from all academic disciplines on their campuses and to join them in promoting academic excellence.

Phi Eta Sigma recognized 119 freshman for their outstanding academic achievement and eligibility for membership in the honor society.

Sixty-one students filled out applications and paid their dues, but only 50 were present for the induction ceremony.

"This is our largest class of members in the LSUS chapter, and I am very impressed with the incoming classes at LSUS," said Martha Durham, a senior journalism/Spanish major and Phi Eta Sigma president.

Induction was held by the officers, Martha Durham, president; Kelsi Gurvitz, vice president; Phillip Guin, secretary; and Kristy Breedlove, historian.

Advisers Dr. Donna Austin and Paula Lewis also participated in the ceremony.

Phi Eta Sigma was established in 1923 and has been on the LSUS campus for 10 years.

According to the society's constitution, the purpose of Phi Eta Sigma is to recognize those who, at the beginning of their college careers give promise of continued excellence in scholarship and to promote scholastic excellence."

SEE SIGMA PAGE 4

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Suzzanne Bright, faculty adviser

Corrections

No corrections this week.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by the Natchitoches Times.

Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Candice Leone, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and email address.

FROM THE EDITOR

Just a reminder—

Tonight is the first of three televised presidential debates between George W. Bush and John Kerry. I know everyone is probably already sick of hearing “get out and vote” comments, but the next two months are going to be filled with even more.

Although we have all seen commercials by both of the candidates criticizing each other, we have to realize that those are not always completely true. You should not cast a vote because of a few negative ads. Watching the live debates is actually the only way to see the real personality and character of each of the candidates. Also, you can hear both of them debate the same issue face-to-face, at the same time, instead of dodging questions and making petty comments to reporters and in newspaper articles.

Keep an open mind, and actually listen to what the candidates have to say. Don't make the decision of who gets your vote by listening to what people around you say. Make your own decision, because the outcome *will* affect your life.

Girls & SPORTS



“The First Breeze of Summer”

The communications department will be presenting “The First Breeze of Summer” in the University Theatre at 8 p.m. tonight, 8 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$5 for students, faculty and staff, \$5 each for groups of five or more and \$10 for all others.

The Almagest letters policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your classification and major. Letters should be submitted to *the Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest reserves the right to edit all letters.

Piatigorsky Foundation to bring classical tunes to LSUS campus

BY BEVERLY BEDSOLE —
GURLEY

Students wondering what all the fuss over Mozart, Bach and Beethoven is about, get a chance to find out for themselves on Oct. 5.

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Lawanda Blakeney and the music department, the students of LSUS were treated to a free classical concert performed by The Piatigorsky Foundation.

The Piatigorsky Foundation was established in 1990 in honor of Gregor Piatigorsky (1903-1976), a Russian cellist who believed "that music is not a luxury for an elite few but a necessity of life for all."

Since the foundation was established, they have been able to present over 1,700 concerts and have brought live classical music to hundreds of thousands of people who otherwise would not have the opportunity to attend such performances.

Soprano Erika Wueschner and pianist Spencer Myer will perform at LSUS during Common Hour in the Science Lec-

ture Auditorium. Both artists are graduates of Juilliard, and will tour north Louisiana from Sept. 29 through Oct. 8. The duo will perform a variety of classical music.

"Music makes life better. Music is a necessity. It is rich. It is imaginative. It is magnificent. And it is for everyone."

-Gregor Piatigorsky
Russian cellist

Wueschner has been featured as a soprano and as a recitalist. She has performed all over the United States and London. As a soprano, she has taken on the roles of Contessa in "Le Nozze di Figaro," Donna Anna in "Don Giovanni" and has appeared as Mimi in Puccini's "La Boheme."

ni's "La Boheme."

Wueschner has performed as a recitalist for such hosts as the American Irish Historical Association, St. John's Chamber Music Series, the 92nd Street Y and in Mozart's Mass in C at St. John's Smith Square, London.

He has acquired a lengthy list of prizes from various competitions throughout the world. Most recently, he captured first prize in the 2004 UNISA International Piano Competition in Pretoria, South Africa.

Myer has performed as a recitalist, chamber musician and soloist. His performances have taken him throughout North America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

The (Johannesburg) Citizen praised him by saying "...An entirely finished artist ... One hung on to every note in nearly breathless expectation..."

Gregor Piatigorsky once said, "Music makes life better. Music is a necessity. It is rich. It is imaginative. It is magnificent. And it is for everyone."

LSUS' Spectra exhibits writings, talent of LSUS students, faculty

BY JILL CHILDERS —

Dorie La Rue, professor of English, has been the adviser of *Spectra*, LSUS' literary magazine, for 15 years.

Spectra, which will create its 32nd edition this year, is published by the English department and publishes current and past students' and faculty members' works.

"We are selective—it's not like you can enter anything and it will be selected, but you have a good chance of getting published if you do send something in," said La Rue. "The student editor decides what is published. We just go along with what is good writing."

This year's *Spectra* is dedicated to Zachary Stringer, a past student in LaRue's creative writing class. Springer was killed on impact in an automo-

dren," said LaRue. "We just thought it would be nice to dedicate it to him. He was an excellent, excellent poet, one of the best poets we've had at LSUS."

Cleatta Morris, director of the Writing Center and an English instructor at LSUS, said she is a big supporter of *Spectra*. Morris has served as editor and co-editor of the publication in the past and has also submitted articles as an undergraduate and graduate student.

"I think it's a great way for students to show their versatility in writing of

SEE SPECTRA PAGE 6

"I think it's a great way for students to show their versatility in writing of the articles, so I do encourage students to submit."

-Cleatta Morris

Director of the Writing Center

bile accident.

"It was a real tragedy, because he had a wife and chil-

Cheerleaders pep up for new season

BY SABRINA NAUDIN —

"Give me an L, give me an S... let's go LSUS, let's go!!"

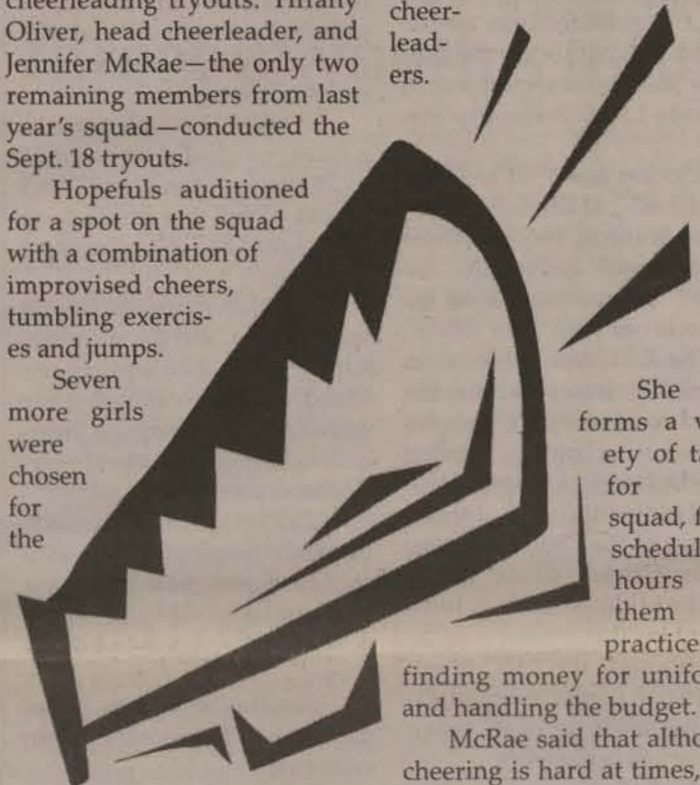
Those were the sounds echoing from the HPE building recently during LSUS cheerleading tryouts. Tiffany Oliver, head cheerleader, and Jennifer McRae—the only two remaining members from last year's squad—conducted the Sept. 18 tryouts.

Hopefuls auditioned for a spot on the squad with a combination of improvised cheers, tumbling exercises and jumps.

Seven more girls were chosen for the

at Parkway High School in Bossier City.

Sara Debrock is the squad's sponsor. Her role mainly consists of making sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible for the cheerleaders.



She performs a variety of tasks for the squad, from scheduling hours for them to practice to

finding money for uniforms and handling the budget.

McRae said that although cheering is hard at times, it is worth it. Cheerleading might seem like a lot of fun, but it is also a lot of work and it can be challenging for the team members to balance practice hours, games and classes. It is a sport but it requires discipline and dedication, she said.

The squad practices two-to-four hours a week to get ready for the upcoming basketball season, which begins in November.

team, which will cheer for both the women's and men's basketball teams.

McRae and Oliver are not only teammates but also best friends, and even though the rest of the squad is pretty new, the girls said they all get along well and are excited about the new season to come.

"I think this is going to be a great year," said McRae, who was a cheerleader for six years

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Cricket club recruits, hopes for growth

BY KEMISHA WARE

The Louisiana Cricket Club, a non-profit organization to promote the game of cricket at LSUS is seeking a following in Shreveport.

According to the club's president, Malcolm Madiwalla, a sophomore biology major, the LCC aims to form a vital link for the cricket community in the Southwest region and to promote LSUS across the nation.

"Cricket is big all over the world," said Madiwalla, a native of Bombay, India. "There aren't many Americans involved, but getting them involved is our goal."

The LCC was formed in June 2003, after Madiwalla moved to Shreveport with his wife, who is currently serving in the United States Air Force.

Madiwalla is a former member of the Ohio State University Cricket Club, which won the Midwest Cricket Tournament in 2000.

Although the LCC is not an official campus organization, the majority of its members are LSUS students.

"We haven't tried to come on campus, because some of our members don't attend school," said junior biology major Daniel Smyth, a native of Salisbury, England. "If we join the campus, then we would have to shut some players out."

According to Madiwalla, the club is raising awareness of cricket by involving both novice and experienced players in matches against other

cricket clubs.

"Back in my country, cricket is like a religion," said Madiwalla. "We never get the chance to play out here, so we made a club to get a chance to play and make people more aware of cricket."

The LCC began with seven members and, with the help of university students and the community of Shreveport, the club is growing.

"It takes 11 people to make a team, so ideally we want 22 to 25 players at the least," said Smyth. "With that we can form two teams and play amongst ourselves."

The club currently has no sponsorship, and the members supply their own equipment. Madiwalla also asks that the members have complete insurance coverage and attend practice sessions regularly.

"Cricket is difficult to catch up with, so anyone interested should have patience," said Madiwalla. "Most of our players have a good feel of the game."

Madiwalla said he hopes the team will have a long-term existence.

"I know that low-interest sports come and go in this community, but I want ours to last," said Madiwalla. "Generally what happens with clubs like ours is once the founding members are gone, the team usually falls apart. If there is no one to keep it moving, it dies out. I would like to see it grow in five years. It should be big."

drives for the center and will support one family through the Gingerbread House for Christmas.

"Our goal this year is to make Phi Eta Sigma an active organization on campus," said Durham.

Members will also have a booth set up during Fall Fest on Oct. 28-29. They have also planned a few socials.

In past years the LSUS chapter has prepared a study skills pamphlet for the incoming freshmen.

They have also composed coloring books for distribution to disadvantaged children.

Men's Basketball Schedule

November

Friday	Nov. 5	Oklahoma Baptist University	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	7:00
Saturday	Nov. 6	Rhema College	Tulsa, Oklahoma	7:00
Friday	Nov. 12	SW Assembly University	Shreveport	7:30
Tuesday	Nov. 16	SW Assembly University	Waxahachie, Texas	7:30
Monday	Nov. 22	East Texas Baptist University	Shreveport	7:30
Wednesday	Nov. 24	Northwestern State University	Natchitoches	6:30
Tuesday	Nov. 30	Southeastern University	Hammond	7:00

December

Friday	Dec. 3	Brescia University	McKenzie, Tennessee	TBA
Saturday	Dec. 4	Bethel College	McKenzie, Tennessee	TBA
Saturday	Dec. 11	Sam Houston State	Huntsville, Texas	6:00
Tuesday	Dec. 14	*Xavier University	Shreveport	7:30
Thursday	Dec. 16	Texas A&M - Commerce	Commerce, Texas	7:00
Tuesday	Dec. 28	Missouri Valley University	Ft. Worth	TBA
Wednesday	Dec. 29	Morningside College	Ft. Worth	TBA

January

Monday	Jan. 3	Texas Wesleyan University	Shreveport	3:00
Thursday	Jan. 6	*Belhaven College	Shreveport	7:30
Saturday	Jan. 8	*Southern University	New Orleans	7:00
Monday	Jan. 10	*Xavier University	New Orleans	7:30
Thursday	Jan. 13	*Tougaloo College	Jackson, Mississippi	7:30
Saturday	Jan. 15	*University of Mobile	Shreveport	7:00
Thursday	Jan. 20	*Loyola University	Shreveport	7:30
Saturday	Jan. 22	*Spring Hill College	Shreveport	7:00
Thursday	Jan. 27	*Dillard University	Shreveport	7:30
Saturday	Jan. 29	*William Carey College	Hattiesburg, Mississippi	7:00

February

Thursday	Feb. 3	*Belhaven College	Jackson, Mississippi	7:30
Saturday	Feb. 5	*Southern University-New Orleans	Shreveport	7:00
Saturday	Feb. 12	*University of Mobile	Mobile, Alabama	7:00
Monday	Feb. 14	*Spring Hill College	Mobile, Alabama	7:30
Thursday	Feb. 17	*Tougaloo College	Shreveport	7:30
Saturday	Feb. 19	*Loyola University	New Orleans	5:00
Thursday	Feb. 24	*Dillard University	New Orleans	7:30
Saturday	Feb. 26	*William Carey College	Shreveport	7:00

March

Wed. - Sat.	March 2 - 5	GCAC Tournament	New Orleans	TBA
Wed. - Tues.	March 16 - 22	NAIA National Tournament	Kansas City, Missouri	TBA

Tips on financing college tuition

(NAPSI)-Paying for college may be easier if you follow a few tips from Chela Education Financing:

1. Start researching scholarships as early as the eighth grade.

2. Check with local organizations for scholarships.

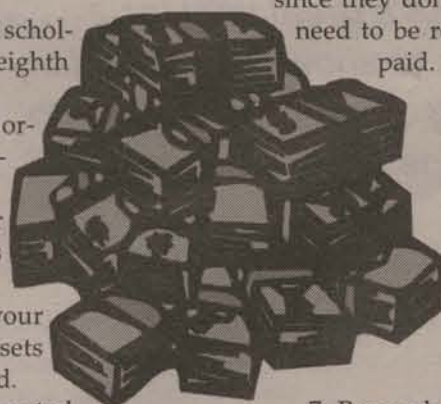
3. Never pay for scholarship submissions or searches.

4. Never assume your family's income and assets are too high to receive aid.

5. Be sure the expected family contribution on your award letter matches the amount of expected family contribution on your Student Aid

Report (SAR).

6. Grants and scholarships are considered "free money," since they don't need to be repaid.



7. Remember that all required financial aid forms must be completed and returned to your school by May 1, 2005, in order to receive the

aid outlined in your award letter.

8. If you do take out loans to pay for school, borrow only the amount needed to cover your anticipated, unmet expenses.

9. If you are accepted at more than one school, compare award packages to understand exactly what is being offered. This is an important factor when selecting schools. A very high percentage of college drop-outs are due to money problems.

10. Find out about the FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid at <http://www.chelastudentloans.org> and <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

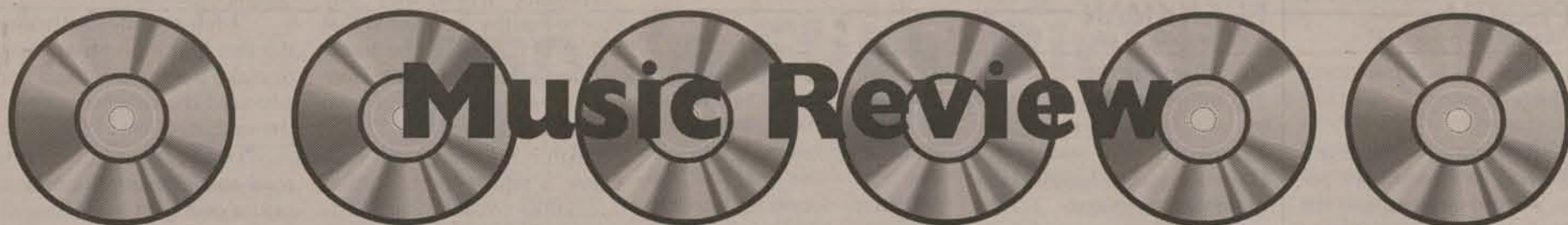
SIGMA

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All full-time freshmen students who earn a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 and are in the top 20 percent of their class are eligible for life-long membership in the honor society.

The LSUS chapter of Phi Eta Sigma is planning several activities for the fall, including a partnership with the Gingerbread House and the Bossier/Caddo Children's Advocacy Center.

Members will participate in a workday at the facilities this month, attend supply



BY ERIC PULSIFER

The Used "In Love and Death"

I have to admit, I enjoy used things. Used electronics, used clothes, used furniture—whatever, I'm not a picky person. If it's cheap and second-hand it's all right by me. However, some things are better off the first time around—even if they weren't so good to begin with. For the most part Utah band, the Used's second album of new material isn't bad, even though it's not exactly brand new. However, when the band tries to recycle the stylings of some of mainstream rock's blander bands, the music sounds a bit too worn out to be sold in good conscience.

"In Love and Death" starts off with four of the best songs the band has recorded to date, forming a solid group of adequately produced songs that are all ideal choices for singles. But the album begins to falter when it turns up the modern rock influence and downplays the frantic screaming of the first album.

Front man Bert McCracken's screaming and vocal em-

phasis pound syllable after syllable, stressing just the right parts of his tortured lyrics to form some of the catchiest vocal rhythms heard in radio rock since the band's first release. Unfortunately, this insane catchiness comes up missing from most of the disc's plain pop choruses, making the album's verses the highlight of the record and the choruses it's

out you I'm a mess" into the bridge when he opens up to "You could stay and watch me fall, and of course I'd ask for help." McCracken's lingering on the word "help" is one the album's high points. Even the displaced flourishes of electronic bass are enjoyable.

Though equally catchy, songs like "Listening" and "Sound Effects and Overdramatics" seem low for the band, like a cheap ploy for airtime. With the two tunes' generic mod rock whiny tough guy singing, bland guitar chugs and laughable chorus—"I don't see anything else, so just say what you wanna say, it's kind of funny how I'm not listening anyway"—they sound like atrocities that could have been penned by Trapt.

Take away the unquestionably catchy verses and focus on the strikingly similar choruses that remain, and it's easy to be disappointed with the Used for holding out the intensity in favor of a more radio-friendly fare—giving fans a disc with less replay value than necessary. The band's rehashing of familiar elements from their first album are a welcome sound for returning fans, but when the band borrows stale ideas from modern rock, their sound is a little too used for their own good.

principal weakness.

McCracken looks like he could easily kill a man for a half melted push-up-pop without flinching, but that doesn't stop him from playing the role of sensitive screamo guy. In "I Caught Fire (In Your Eyes)"—a song about entertaining thoughts of getting back together with an ex-love—McCracken's voice trembles as he utters "Every second I'm with-



Poll shows Americans view illiteracy as major threat to youth's future

(NAPSI)—Americans place a high value on the importance of literacy. That's the news from a recent survey that found illiteracy is viewed as the greatest threat to American children's future.

The findings reveal that a full one-third of all Americans, when asked, identified illiteracy (33 percent) over other pressing social issues such as poverty (24 percent), health care (23 percent) and the environment (15 percent) as posing the greatest risk to youth.

Other notable findings include the fact that a majority of respondents (51 percent) consider reading to be the most important skill in a child's development—more essential than listening (30 percent), speaking (12 percent) and writing (four percent).

Furthermore, the lack of access to books was recognized as the leading cause of illiteracy in children by one out of five Americans (20 percent).

In fact, according to the U.S. Department of Education, 61 percent of low-income families have no books in their homes for their children. Addi-

tionally, over 80 percent of the preschool and after-school programs serving at-risk children have no books at all.

The survey was sponsored by brokerage firm TD Waterhouse, who recently launched a nationwide online book drive for disadvantaged children and youth.

The campaign was developed in partnership with First Book, a leading literacy nonprofit organization, and Aidmatrix.

"The TD Waterhouse book drive perfectly demonstrates how visionary corporate involvement in social issues can be creative, attractive and most of all effective in reaching children in need," said actor John Lithgow, spokesman for First Book.

"I loved reading with my own children, and this initiative means that many more children will be able to experience the magic of reading," he said.

For more information on childhood illiteracy, visit the Web site <http://www.firstbook.com>.



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SPECTRA

continued from page 3

the articles, so I do encourage students to submit," said Morris.

"In the past, we have featured half literary articles, poems, stories, etcetera, and the other half would be dedicated to paintings and drawings from the fine arts department," she said.

Spectra is paid for with money from the student activity fees and gives students and faculty opportunity to let people see what they can do.

"When I was an editor, I always looked for the strongest piece in terms of what I perceived to be good work," said Morris.

"I had nothing to do with choosing the cover or whatever artwork was used," said LaRue, "but I got to choose how they were dispersed throughout the issue."

"It's strictly a matter of what the editor finds interesting, and it has to be a strong piece of writing," she said.

SHENKMAN

continued from page 1

"It was interesting to learn that the political practices used by our forefathers are now frowned upon," said Joseph Hayes, a junior business administration major. "I wish more students would have come out to get a more realistic view of American politics."

Shenkman said he thinks Americans should take a proactive approach to learning about the issues and candidates by reading *The New York Times* and the *Weekly Standard*.

"Think of *The New York Times* as free continuing education," said Shenkman. "By reading an array of educational material, it opens your mind up to different ideas and points of view."

Shenkman shared with the audience the seven habits of highly effective voters he developed: don't believe what anyone says on the campaign trail—politicians tell you what they think you want to hear; watch the news as if it were a

scene out of "Alice in Wonderland"—politicians say things on the campaign trail more bizarre than talking white rabbits; run when you hear the politicians sounding humble;

"It was interesting to learn that the political practices used by our forefathers are now frowned upon. I wish more students would have come out to get a more realistic view of American politics."

—Joseph Hayes

Junior, business administration

never pay attention to the claim that candidates are running to help the country; be

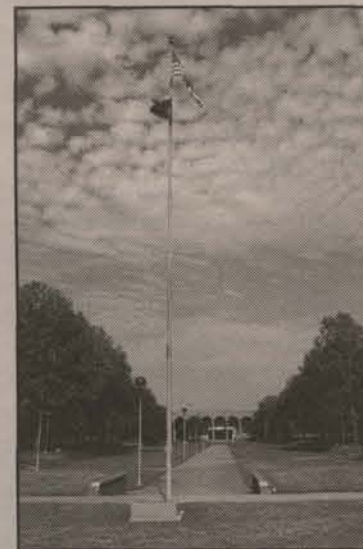
suspicious when they say they're healthy; be assured that they will not behave as badly in office as they do on the campaign trail; and be your own decision maker.

After the program, Julie Fager, a junior social studies education major, said she

casting their votes.

"I felt that he reaffirmed the fact that individuals need to make a more informed and educated choice when voting," she said.

"I encourage all students to read and educate themselves before going out to vote."



ERIC PULSIFER

The flag is a patriotic reminder of what election day is all about.

hopes young voters will take Shenkman's advice and get educated on the issues before

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Jason's Flick Picks

BY JASON LIMERICK

****Warning....This movie review is intended for mature audiences. It is lacking in moral fiber and may cause dirty thoughts.****

"Super Size Me"

This week I decided to take a break from my big screen rants to bring attention to two documentaries that are currently on DVD. These are great films that we've had the misfortune of missing because of our lack of independent cinema releases in our one-theater town.

I decided about two years ago to give up fast food and about a year ago to give up sodas. I had, like most folks, heard about how the food was full of toxins and the sodas contained way too much sugar. So I made a New Year's resolution and just stopped. This prompted quite a bit of ridicule from friends and coworkers who might have thought I was going for some holier-than-thou health Nazi crusade, but I honestly was just worried about it. I mean, I'm getting old over here.

Well, after convincing a few of them to give "Super Size Me" a try, I have to say I feel a bit vindicated. In fact, a couple of them have vowed to join me in my quest to not get diabetes

by the time I'm 30.

That's the effect this film has. It's staggering in that it has the power and potential to effect more actualized change than any work by Michael Moore or any other director with an agenda to motivate. This is an important film, and I honestly think that everyone in America should see it. But that's not what I like most about the movie.

My favorite thing about "Super Size Me" is that it's entertaining. I mean it's really funny. It's got that deer-in-the-headlights, I've got to see what happens next draw of a reality TV show mixed with writer/director/star Morgan Spurlock's sly wit and charm, all combined with hilarious interviews and a pace that makes two hours seem like it's not enough time.

The premise of the movie is simply this: Morgan Spurlock, a healthy American guy, decides to find out why America is the fattest nation in the world all while using himself as a guinea pig and going on an all-McDonald's diet for 30 days. That's three square meals every day all McD's. He is checked out by a variety of doctors at the beginning of his quest and found to be in perfect health. But as the film progresses and he continues with the MCD's

diet, he gains 30 pounds, his blood pressure goes through the roof, his cholesterol goes up more than 65 points, he has symptoms of toxic shock to his liver, he loses all his energy and according to his girlfriend....he's having problems in the bedroom too.

Most of the doctors are shocked, and Spurlock really chronicles medically the effect that these toxins have on a human body for the first time in an in-depth way. So when I set out to write this review I didn't want to come off like the film was too preachy, but I think I might have. This movie doesn't look at McDonald's as the enemy. It simply tries to find out why we've grown so dependent on fast food and what effect it's having on us. Spurlock doesn't hate McDonald's. In fact he often looks very fondly on the company, but it's hard to root for the reason your liver has gone into toxic shock and you may get adult-onset diabetes.

This movie is hilarious and compelling, and it's one of the best documentary films I've ever seen. I recommend it to everyone. I think it should be played in classrooms and boardrooms as a requirement.



"Rivers and Tides"

Ok, this one is going to seem boring, but I swear it's not, honestly. "Rivers and Tides" is a profile of the life and work of Andy Goldsworthy, a Scottish sculptor and artist who uses time and nature as elements in his art. See that sounds so freakin' boring. I know, but you've got to believe me. This is some amazing stuff.

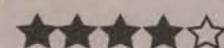
Most working-class folks think of modern art and they think of weird shapes and nonsensical prints from some pretentious ego maniac who looks down on his or her audience and whose sole purpose is to make us feel dumb. Well Andy Goldsworthy is pretty much the opposite. He's an adventurer, philosopher and working class guy. He walks through the woods—and where we see trees and leaves and creeks—he sees living art, sculptures forming in his mind that he uses as a kind of therapy. Goldsworthy is really a modest, unsure old man who spins philosophy about the river and sea as if he's a professor but sets out at play with icicles, twigs or stones trying to create with the wide-eyed explorative bounce of a kid. He mumbles a lot and seems uncomfortable with the camera, but when given a

chance to verbally articulate the stream of questions flowing through his mind, he speaks with a powerful passion.

The thing I liked most about this movie is that it's really well made. It doesn't falter with the narrow sort of jumping camera work that many documentaries fall into. It has big sweeping shots and well constructed images. Director Thomas Riedelsheimer films this movie with grace and creates stunning images that give Goldsworthy's art the respect it deserves. It's a beautiful thing to watch and at times is so vivid and clear that you feel like you're in the green hills of Scotland or that maybe you can smell the salt in the sea air.

Goldsworthy's art is so amazing because it's so fragile. Often times he'll toil on something for 9 or 10 hours only to see it destroyed by the tide or the wind. But that's what makes it so beautiful. It's so vulnerable, and you feel a bit of remorse because you know that it's gone and all you have is a glimpse caught on film.

This is a great movie for anyone who loves art or for anyone who's interested in what makes a person an artist. I also recommend this one to everybody.



DEMOCRATS

continued from page 1

lack of student interest and organization recognition.

Mariah Harridge, a senior criminal justice major, said she joined the College Democrats because she supports Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry and because her family members are Democrats.

"Your whole future rides on this year's election," said Harridge.

"If people want to talk, they should voice their opin-

ion by voting in this year's election," she said.

According to The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, 18 to 29 year olds will account for 21 percent of eligible voters in the 2004 presidential election.

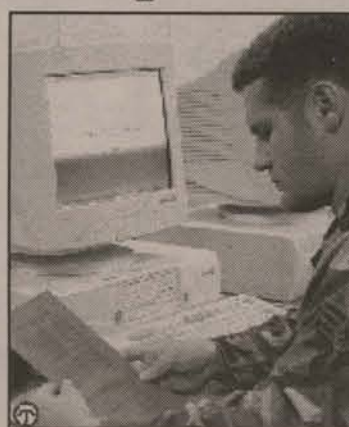
In Louisiana alone, young voters represent 25 percent of eligible voters in the state.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the College Democrats may contact Kirk Green at Kcapt24@aol.com.

Free testing program helps military members shorten path to college degree

(NAPSI)-Busy military service members juggling career, family and college study can more easily save time and money as they work toward their degrees thanks to a service offered by the College Board's College-Level Examination Program in partnership with the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support.

All military service members can now take free computer-based CLEP exams, which allow them to earn college credit for what they already know, at college test centers across the country. CLEP exams provide individuals the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of introductory college-level subjects. By earning successful scores on one of 35 CLEP ex-



COURTESY OF THE US AIRFORCE
A soldier looks over material for an upcoming CLEP exam.

ams, students can bypass introductory courses and receive credit for their knowledge.

Until recently, military service members could take a paper version of some CLEP exams free of charge only on military installations. This

made access particularly challenging for National Guard and Reserve members who often do not live near a military base.

Instead of traveling across state—or over state lines—to a base, National Guard and Reservists may be able to visit their local college to take the funded exams. All test takers are expected to pay the testing college's administration fee, but the \$55 exam fee is covered by a contract between the College Board and DANTES.

When service members have completed the 90-minute computer-based exam, they are provided with an instant score report. For more information about CLEP and for a list of colleges administering the exams, visit <http://www.collegeboard.com/clep>.

Attention, Republicans!!

We can't find you! We wanted to run a story about the Republican organization on campus, but we haven't been able to contact anyone. Let us know if the organization is still active so we can give both parties equal coverage.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 30

SGA Meeting

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Zeta Tau Alpha Crown Activities

10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

PRSSA Meeting

10:30-11:15 a.m.

Phi Eta Sigma Meeting

10 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Friday, October 1

BSA Pajama Party

7 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Saturday, October 2

Association of Future Lawyers

Business Meeting

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sunday, October 3

Kappa Sigma Meeting

5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Phi Mu Meeting

5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Zeta Tau Alpha Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Sigma Nu Meeting

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Monday, October 4

Last day to change
from credit to audit

Tuesday, October 5

Career Fair

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Chi Alpha Club Meeting

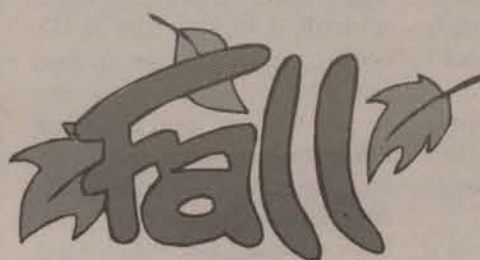
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 7

Fall Break-NO CLASS

Friday, October 8

Fall Break-NO CLASS



HOROSCOPES

*Editor's note: For entertainment only. Not to be taken seriously!



Aries (March

21-April 19)

Resist the temptation to be lazy today. Hard work and determination will get you far.



Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Trust your instincts today. They won't steer you wrong.



Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You are really going places. Don't forget the people who helped you get where you are.



Cancer (June 22-July 22)

People are critical of you today. Don't worry, they are just jealous.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)



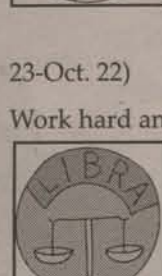
You have an outgoing personality—and that will get you far today.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Don't put off until tomorrow what you can get done today.

Tackle that big project ASAP.



Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Work hard and plan for the future. Your preparation will pay off.



Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Your job is going well for you. Keep up the good work, and it will pay off.



Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Someone notices you today. It could lead to a new friendship or relationship.



Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Watch what you say today. Your comments may offend someone close to you.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Listen to the advice your friends give you. They may keep you from making a bad decision.



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Others praise you for your creativity. Use it to your advantage today.

Crack Head Shoplifter Prostitute

...all thrown out with the help of kids like me.

-Ana, age 16

Everybody loves to trash teenagers, right? Maybe they don't realize that we do care. That we can make a difference. Get involved in Crime Prevention. Clean up parks. Teach younger kids. Start a school or neighborhood watch. And help make your community safer and better for everyone. Together, we can prove them wrong by doing something right.

Call Toll Free
1-800-722-TEENS
www.weprevent.org

Ad Council